

WT 11-65

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ORIGINAL

October 17, 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the matter of ATT Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for Consent to Assign or Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorization (WT Docket No. 11-65)

New Jersey has a history of innovation and companies like AT&T have contributed to that reputation. In fact, the company has several thousand employees here with nearly 1800 scientists. These scientists develop more than two patents daily. Additionally, the state is home to several telecommunications and IT companies and we have witnessed the transformation in this industry firsthand. As the communications industry changes, one thing is constant; broadband is a foundation for economic growth.

New Jersey much like the rest of the country is struggling to retain and grow jobs. Between 2008 and 2010, AT&T invested more than \$3 billion in wireline and wireless networks in our state. This investment has not only contributed to our state's economy, but has helped stimulate our national and global markets as well.

As Chair of the Senate Economic Growth Committee here in New Jersey, I understand that an advanced mobile broadband experience drives economic growth, stimulates jobs and equips businesses to meet network demands. The NJ Legislature is committed to growing jobs here in the state. We understand that this merger is a mechanism to accomplishing that objective. Additionally, it will allow AT&T to increase spectrum that will allow it to provide faster and additional wireless broadband.

That is why I support the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile. Ultimately, the merged companies will provide more high-speed broadband coverage in New Jersey and across the country. As technology advances, the need

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for increased data capacity will increase as well. AT&T is attempting to meet that demand.

We believe this merger will ensure the country is poised to meet our future broadband growth and the needs of our consumers.

Sincerely,



Senator Raymond Lesniak
Chairman Senate Economic Growth Committee